

The Family doesn't print or distribute any political lit any more. All the leaders of the socialist movement had heard, discussed & rejected our Godly socialism by mid-1975 and it was not much later that they were mercilessly killed, arrested & driven into the jungles.

Thailand is divided into 72 provinces, each headed by a Governor who is appointed by the Ministry of the Interior (police, civil service, immigration). Provinces are further divided into districts & those into villages.

The Family was legally recognised & accepted by the Ministry of the Interior from our earliest days but not the Ministry of Religious Affairs. They eventually got the Ministry of the Interior to withdraw its recognition towards the end of 1978 & continued to put the pressure on for them to go to the other extreme of trying to get rid of us, which they thought they succeeded in doing by the end of 1979. So the COG/FOL is not legally accepted nor is litnessing. They are simply too busy with other things to worry about us at this time. Selah!

#### HISTORY

Thais are principally Semites with some traces of Hamite especially in the South. They migrated here from China where they were the kingdom of Nanchao founded in 650AD. They were driven south by Kublai Khan in 1253. The first capital of Thailand was Sukothai which is now a province in what is now northern Thailand. The most important ruler of the Sukothai era was King Ramkhamhaeng who introduced the first Thai alphabet derived from Sanskrit & Balinese, similar to written Tamil.

The litnessing at these bases greatly helped to support our Thai outreach & many hungry GI's were reached as this was at the height of the Viet Nam War & the bombing of Cambodia & Laos. We worked quite extensively with the Churches at that time until they finally turned on us. The last to go were the Catholics who really did help us a great deal. Our first Thai disciple joined about mid-74. Just like the rest of the worldwide Family we've had about 3 times as many people join us as are now with us. Dozens of disciples have been with us & gone back but the real fighters are still with us!

We did lots of Holy Ghost Samples at such places as Siam Square, Lumpinee Park & so on & the work was supported by litnessing until about mid-77. We then sold WW products for awhile & english teaching began in Oct. of 1978. During 1977-79 alot of singing was done in nightclubs, coffee-shops & so on around the country & included TV Shows in Bangkok, Raadyai & Lampang.

FFing began (without leaderships permission) in late 1974 when Jonah Merlin began an outreach among the many whores & prostitutes which were even more numerous in those days due to the US bases. Hundreds were saved, one of which was Pawn of ML No. 370, as result of his clandestine ministry. Leadership finally jumped in around December 1976. FFing has won just about every disciple that is still with us.

Probably our most popular outreach was our Coffeeshop which was situated behind the Bangkok Rama Cinema on Rajprarop Rd. near Pratunam market. Designed along the lines of a Poorboy Club we had hundreds come to our

In 1350, King Rama Thibodi founded a new dynasty & established his capital in Ayutthaya where 33 kings ruled until 1767 when the invading Burmese almost totally destroyed it. However, one general named Tak Sin escaped & a year later became king. He eventually drove the Burmese out, & founded his capital at Thonburi. He was succeeded by the founder of the present Chakri Dynasty, Chao Phya Chakri, who moved the capital to Bangkok in 1782. The present king H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej is the 9th monarch of the dynasty.

Thais are very nationalistic & love to tell you that Thailand has never been a western colony & has always been independent. They often neglect to tell you that they have only been called "Thailand" since WWII in which they surrendered to the Japanese & were called Siam. Because they lack this colonisation experience - you'll also find them lacking the organisational & religious influences the former colonial powers imparted to their former colonies.

#### FAMILY HISTORY IN THAILAND

The work here began with a catacomb brother in the U.S. Airforce named Horeb Holykias in early 1973. Two more brothers joined him here in the middle of that year & worked closely with Brother Paul of Japan's people here in Ayutthaya (ML No. 208:1-2). The first lit in Thai was the baby tract & then Brother Sun & Shangri-la. By the end of 73 we had all moved to Bangkok & road teams were hitting the US Air Force bases situated around Thailand at Udorn, Ubol, Korat, Nakorn Panom, Utapao, & Mahasarakham.

Friday & Saturday night parties. Invitations were issued with a map while out litnessing during the week & many people came for "lots of loving looks & more!". Hundreds were saved & many disciples joined. It peaked on Christmas 1974. About 40 brethren lived at the Coffeeshop Blob! The first Home established outside of Bangkok was in Korat in early 75 after the "Colony Revolution" & consisted of Horeb Holykiss, Zachariah Lantern, Simeon Minatrel, Jonathan Freed, & then new disciple Crystal! This home won our first Cambodian disciple as well as some Thais. At various times we've also had regular ministries in orphanages, schools, & prisons & have had great success in establishing "Free Schools" & "Clubs" which were primitive "Open the Door For the Children" & resulted in many little disciples that turned their neighborhoods upside down! Almost literally sometimes! At times we had as many as many as a dozen little Thai disciples that we would take out & have perform HG Samples!

#### THAI RELIGION

Thais are principally Buddhist with minorities of Christians, Muslims & Confucians. While Buddhism is the official state religion it is actually a blend of Buddhist, Hindu, Brahmin, & Animist beliefs & traditions with a little Taoism & Confucianism mixed in. Statues of Hindu deities are worshipped as readily & enthusiastically as Buddha images.

People respect, fear & worship spirits & appease them with offerings of flowers, incense & food. Mini-temples for these spirits to live in can be found on the corner of almost every piece of property in Thailand.